

Gassing up at Baker,
he purses his lips from there on in.
Time for the final psyche-up on his system.

Posing as a salesman for Chef Boyardee,
he checks into the Flamingo.
The desk clerk doesn't suspect a thing.
Shower, shave, he rejects the pin stripe
as too much Al Pacino. Opts
for the orange turtle neck instead
with sunglasses on top of the head.
Downs his double scotch neat,
is ready for the action.

Blackjack: stay on 14, dealer showing three;
double down on 11, splits a pair of eights,
all goes off like Timex.
28 skins. next morning 14 more.
Tip for the dealer, an inside smile
for the pit boss.

Back in his Falcon, he leans back
and lites a Winston. He'll be back again
next year. Ha! Little do they know.

WOULD YOU RATHER HAVE YOUR TEETH FIXED IN LIBYA?

Now it's being told by the likes of
Ishmael Reed and Helen Gurley Brown
the truth
about the white American male.
He never could turn on or tune in,
get it up or get it on,
suffer, dance, or hear the beat,
steal second or the show,
tell a lager from a Luger.

All he ever did was
invent war, the church & guilt,
Holiday Inns and the male Chauvinist pig,
plagiarize poems and talk like Jimmy Stewart.

In other words,
Mantle, Ruth, & Lenny Bruce;
Lincoln, Truman, JFK;
Gone With The Wind, On The Waterfront, & Shane;
Hawthorne, Hemingway, & Harry Heilman;
Brando, Bogey, & Jonas Salk;
Jefferson, Edison, & Groucho Marx;
Astaire, Sinatra, & Moby Dick;
Walter Mitty & Bob Cousy;
Brubeck, Goodman, & Glenn Miller;

Eugene Ormandy & The Philadelphia Orchestra;
John, Walter, & Houston Sam;
Lewis & Clark;
Steak & Eggs, DiMaggio's 56;
didn't or don't exist.

THE SEMINAR

this gal we know was doing her
sociology homework in the 49-er tavern.

"What's up?" we asked.
"I've got to list the
ten dirtiest words I know
and after cunt, clap, syph,
I'm running low."

We helped her out:
guilt
reality
junior high school
Regan
Orange County
Love Story
Rod McKuen

We could have done better but
she was only taking the course pass/fail.

THE MANLY ART OF SELF DEFENSE

everybody knows the champ
whether it's the Brown Bomber, John Garfield,
M. Ali, Kirk Douglas, or
the Sweet Swatter from Sweetwater.

and the boys in the prelims have
a following, too. their fans come
early for a burger and a beer
to beat the traffic to the punch.

but how about the cabinet makers who ply
their trade after the main event?

marty the mauler's one of these.
34, he's never fought a windup or a champ.
his record's 90 won and 90 lost and 90 by KO.
he has to fight to supplement the wage
he makes as part time honey dip and onion topper.
still he takes pride in his work.